

IN THE CLAIMS

1. – 7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A combustor for a gas turbine engine, said combustor ~~comprising~~ comprising a spectacle plate; plate, and a plurality of swirlers attached to said spectacle plate; ~~and, wherein to assemble said combustor:~~

an assembly fixture is coupled to at least one ~~of said swirler~~ swirlers, wherein each respective assembly fixture includes a plurality of arms that are sized to receive each said respective swirler and an attachment portion that is configured to couple to said spectacle plate;

each ~~said~~ respective assembly fixture is removably coupled to said spectacle plate ~~such that to facilitate maintaining an alignment of~~ each said respective swirler ~~is aligned~~ with respect to said spectacle plate; and

each respective assembly fixture is then uncoupled from each said spectacle plate after each said swirler is attached to each said spectacle plate.

9. (currently amended) A combustor in accordance with Claim 8 further comprising a plurality of deflector plates comprising an opening extending therethrough, wherein to assemble said combustor, said plurality of deflector plates are each attached to said spectacle plate such that wherein each said deflector plate opening is substantially concentrically aligned with each respective said swirler.

10. (original) A combustor in accordance with Claim 9 wherein each said swirler is welded to said spectacle plate prior to uncoupling each respective assembly fixture.

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